under one chapter heading to Rs. 30 lakhs;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the source of such request;

(c) whether Government proposes to take some action in the matter; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Requests were received in the form of pre-Budget Memoranda by the Government from various associations of the industry and trade for increasing the excise duty exemption limits under the small scale exemption scheme.

(c) and (d) The requests were examined by the Government and the existing concessions in respect of central excise duties for the small scale sector were considered adequate.

Visit of the Chief of the Asian Development Bank

1344. SHRI SAYEED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief of the Asian Development Bank visited India recently;

(b) if so, what are the details of the purpose of his visit;

(c) whether any discussions for development of country have been held with him; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir. However, Mr. N. Morita, Director, Programme West Department of Asian Development Bank visited New Delhi on 18th & 19th July, 1991;

(b) The purpose of his visit was to discuss (i) the current status of the Bank's 1991 lending programme and explore methods of expediting approval of the pending loans, an (ii) other possibilities for assistan for India both for 1991 and 1992.

(c) and (d) During his meetings with various economic Ministries the progress of the various ADB assisted projects and the possibility of further assistance for India from ADB were discussed for evolving the further lending programme of the Bank.

1345. [*Transferred to the 1st August, 1991.*]

Impact of devaluation of rupee domestic industrial sector

1346. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the impact of recent devaluation of Indian currency mainly on the domestic industrial sector; and

(b) what is the extent to which this devaluation will help in growth of economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) The recent adjustment in the external value of the rupee will encourage production for exports and of import substitutes and thereby have a positive impact on the domestic industrial sector and the growth of the economy.